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## OF INTEREST TO WOMEN. BY THE ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

THE TIME WAS, when September was the returning month to town, for the settling of the home, and making the rooms of a household ones of cosiness and comfort. But in these days, the charms of September in the country are too great, to leave even for city attractions, and so, the home maker gathers about her some pretty articles to bring back as a decorative bit for her winter store.

TO THE LOVER OF CHINA PAINTING a dessert set of some six plates can be done by an amateur with but little trouble if the following flowers are utilized: In the painting of china, the best ware should be chosen, of a degree fine in quality, and for this scheme the plates selected should neither be too small nor too large, and with an edge ornamental in character. As a centre adornment, on one can be painted a wild rose, on another a field daisy in pure white and as a pretty scheme the pansy in different tints of purple and yellow is very acceptable, as a special design, the violet framed by a series of artistic lines while the simple white garden rose and the apple blossom make for the six a charming plan. To decorate well these ornamental edges different lustres can be employed, such as rose, yellow and light-green, the matt gold also being given as the finishing touch. Plates of this kind need a shading like that used in water colors to bring out their delicacy and charm. So well should they be painted that—before firing each plate should be a study in itself, and so perfectly finished in all details that the firing alone, would give the polish to complete the scheme.

EVERY SEASON there are wonderful advancements in brass, in the making of accessories in this brilliant metal for special rooms, the library taking the lead. At one of our art-stores there are two new coal and wood boxes of superb ornamentation. They are of immense size some four feet long and round in shape, the top has a double division which lifts up for the putting in of wood and coal—quite enough to last for a grate fire some three or four days. As a decorative bit they are of an unrivaled pattern being one of great elaboration in the way of designs in fruit with their blossoms and leaves, strong conventional borders, and odd queer looking handles, which are full of artistic curves and lines. This household luxury is valued at \$250.00 each, of course being desirable only for large rooms.

NOW TO ACCOMPANY THIS are andirons which have been constructed on a marvelously extensive plan. They are made in every style, many of them are copies of French and Italian art, in splendid affairs some four to five feet in height, and superbly embossed in strong devices, chased, and retrousée work, which natural-

ly bring an extravagant price, others are plain, on strict and formal lines, with a simple ornamentation but all equally artistic.

PERHAPS IN NO SEASON BEFORE has there been such an advancement in brass as in this. As for articles for the fire-side they are without number. The brass screen although of small size is very acceptable, fan-like in shape, the centre a sort of lace effect in delicate brass tracery, the stand being a charming plan of good ornamental design. Hand screens in this same metal are also fine fireplace adornment, and the holding of them will be revived as in all the other fashions which are coming to the front at such a rapid pace.

THE WELL-EQUIPPED HEARTH of to-day is one in which a goodly sum is spent. The fireplace if for wood has for its chief decoration a splendid pair of andirons, a tongs and shovel set of good orna-

make without an inch of ornamentation, the seat and back well covered in sections of a peculiar tint in leather something between a delicate terra cotta and a decided scarlet. Along the sides of each of these artistically shaped pieces the leather is put on by brass nails of an excellent quality perfectly plain.

THE UPHOLSTERED CHAIR this fall will be in tones of dark red, or dull browns, these tones being more acceptable for rooms gay in wall coverings, making for the plan a charm which is unobtrusive and inviting.

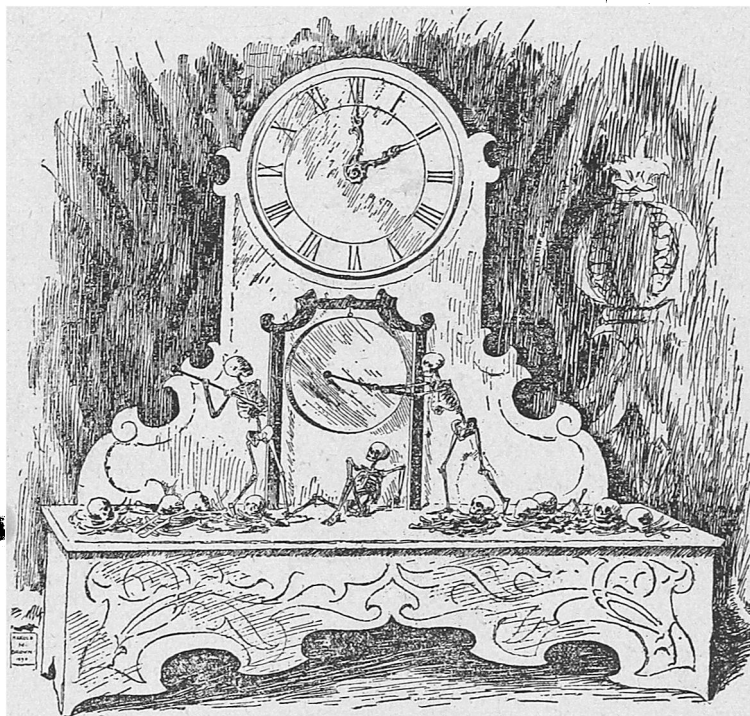
WITH SEPTEMBER comes the chrysanthemum in all its varied shades of light pink, old rose, and pale yellow. These blossoms are peculiarly rich for table decorations, and especially for autumn functions. The white one combined with ribbon effects is very charming. Cut glass, the tall Bohemian or Venetian rose, so richly ornamented in gilt is peculiarly attractive for this plant.

THIS AUTUMN the centre-piece will be on hand in chrysanthemums in all their tints, the edges taking a sumptuous part in the pretty ornamentation. The blossom will be in a branch-like effect of three tints—delicate purple, yellow in a pale tone, and the pure white. With these, the leaf will be in tones of rich green and the grouping is one, which is very effective and artistic.

AMONG THE DECORATIVE BITS that can be procured by the out-of-town woman who has a farm of her own is the Mexican field corn. When going to seed, gather some of rich red hue, and group in a bunch for a place on the dining-room wall. It is extremely decorative and effective, and will ensure for any spot a fine bit of color when hung. In fact there are a number of queer things that can be found for a room, and add a tone, if only care is taken to have them well packed in the bringing of them home, such as an emptied hornet's nest, sea-weed, pretty sea-shells, and birch bark, which is of a delightful grey tint, and artistic in appearance.

AS A FURNITURE COVERING this autumn, the liberty velvets are more picturesque than ever. The tones are splendid, particularly in blues, the designs extremely large, and the shadings exquisitely beautiful. In yellows, the tints are of a richness seldom seen before, the sunflower apparently taking the lead. So big are these schemes, that one blossom or conventionalized flower will form for a chair, the seat, while the back will embrace perhaps a flower and two leaves which for this device is charmingly effective.

THE DARK LIBERTY IN BROWNS is very beautiful. As portieres, they are very acceptable especially for doors and windows of an unusual size.



A CURIOUS AND INTERESTING CLOCK.

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mentation in brass, with a hearth-brush encased in a brass holder of superb finish, with a long handle equally equipped in the same extravagant pattern. With it is a fender which may be of composition or the real metal, high in its make, and well constructed on good lines agreeable to the eye. One may haunt the second-handed places and find pretty old-fashioned andirons in brass which can be picked up at a reasonable rate, and if well cleaned and polished at their best present quite a handsome appearance. Such clever imitations are now given, that a person need to be a connoisseur even in this metal to accomplish the buying of them successfully. Andirons are now made in every form from the plain old English ones of simple make to those which are a mass of elaboration at a very high price.

CHAIRS THIS AUTUMN vary as usual in designs. The new one has just been finished by Cottier the art decorator. It is of red mahogany, of old-fashioned solid